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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE Periodical and newspaper as indicated.

14 NEW ROLLING MILLS INSTALLED IN 1949

PRODUCTION BOOSTED -- Die Wirtschaft, No 1, 5 Jan 50

The 1949 investment plan for the metallurgical industry made possible the installation of 14 new rolling mills. Production of raw steel in the Soviet Zone had been increased considerably by reconstruction of the Hennigsdorf and Gröbnitz steel mills, and the new rolling mills now will make it possible to process the ingots into sheet and section steel.

Four of the six rolling mills established for the production of section steel are in Hennigsdorf. In 1948, this plant had only one 550 single-pass rolling mill. Now, it also has a blooming mill, a 450 intermediate rolling mill, a 350 light-section mill, and a 320 light-section (continuous) mill.

The light-section plant which is being built at the Riesa Steel Mill has an intermediate rolling mill which is the most modern in Germany. Another light-section mill started operation on 15 September in the completely new, people-owned plant in Kirchmöser. This rolling mill, which has a modern cooling bed, and the 320 light-section mill at Hennigsdorf were both part of a shipment of five rolling mills delivered by the Soviet Union at the beginning of the year.

The other rolling mills delivered by the Soviet Union were the plate-rolling mill at Kirchm^user, a rolling mill for seamless pipe, and a tire-rolling mill to produce tires for streetcars and railroad rolling stock. The pipe-rolling mill, which was set up at Riesa, delivered the first pipes for locomotives and boilers just before the first of May. Production of tires was started at Gr^udzitz on 1 July.

Four plate mills have also been set up. The plate mill at Kirchmösers, which has a foundation 8 meters thick, started operation the beginning of October. The Ilsenburg rolling mill has received a new medium plate mill, and another medium plate mill has started operation at Göwe near Aue. The Burg rolling mill, the newest in the Zone, started operation of a sheet-rolling train on 12 November.

The last rolling mill is a wire-drawing mill which was set up at Hennigsdorf.

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SOVIET AID RE-EQUIPS PLANTS -- Die Wirtschaft, No 16, Aug 49

Deliveries of rolling machinery from the Soviet Union, have aided in the establishment of the following plants: a tire-rolling mill with a capacity of 15,600 tons in Gröditz, a plate-rolling mill with a capacity of 20,000 tons and a sheet-rolling mill with a capacity of 14,000 tons in Kirchmöser, a continuous rolling train with a capacity of 10,000 tons in Hennigsdorf, and a tube mill with a capacity of 8,000 tons in Riesa.

NEW ELECTRIC FURNACE IN OPERATION -- Die Wirtschaft, No 24, Dec 49

On 10 December 1949, a new 2-ton electric smelting furnace was put into operation in the people-owned steel mill in Wetterzeube near Zeitz. Another such furnace is to be installed within a few months.

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